

NEW SOUTH WALES.

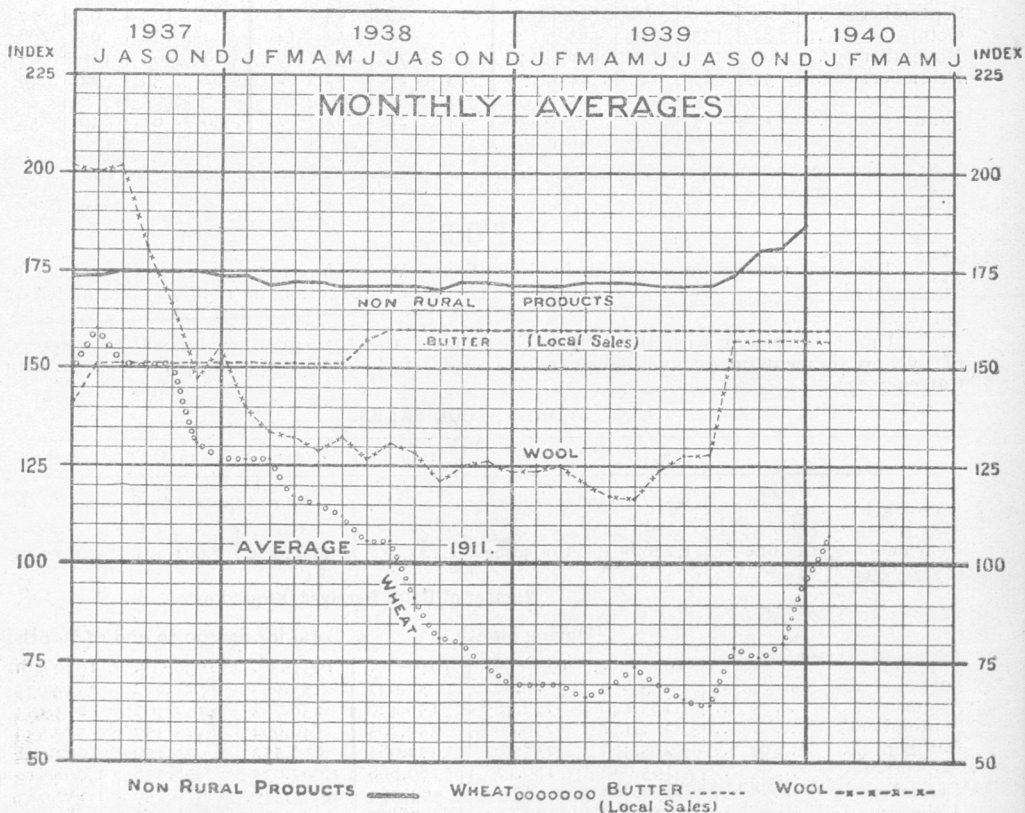
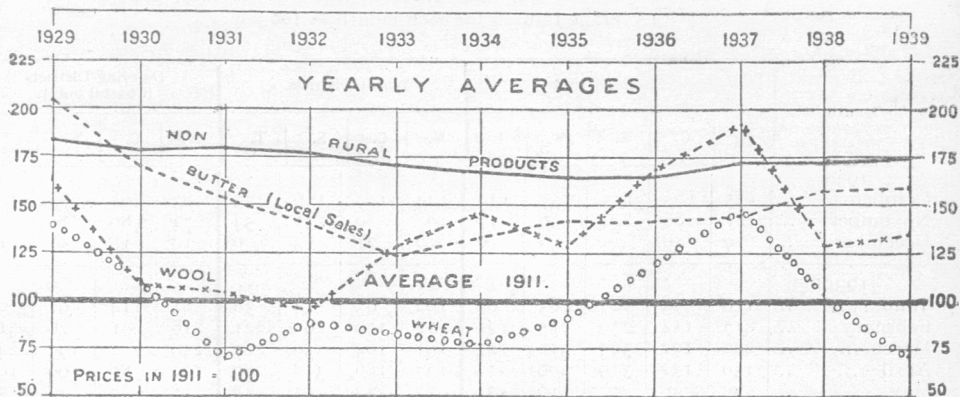
MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

No. 106. FEBRUARY 28, 1940.

Issued by S. R. Carver, Government Statistician.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



All prices are in Australian currency. The indexes for recent months are shown in table 25 on page 11 of this summary. The footnotes to that table apply also to this graph.

SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1938.													
October ...	135	185	125	157	148	124	177	126	139	83	98	207	102
November ...	121	86	44	36	77	108	80	32	54	74	86	86	78
December ...	10	16	4	3	9	10	21	3	9	19	18	11	18
1939.													
January ...	110	73	27	83	69	102	63	14	38	81	114	92	91
February ...	17	114	259	255	149	12	139	298	221	16	1	26	13
March ...	200	192	325	312	251	191	164	359	287	250	272	197	248
April ...	140	172	319	206	214	137	186	348	280	102	89	166	107
May ...	40	46	52	110	53	37	42	53	48	58	47	42	53
June ...	92	78	131	121	104	81	74	140	115	40	20	23	32
July ...	82	55	60	111	71	64	48	64	60	50	42	33	46
August ...	146	207	242	198	200	146	187	242	216	83	92	218	102
September ...	29	31	66	28	41	16	26	63	48	67	105	65	77
October ...	82	135	145	113	121	78	140	153	140	252	160	95	208
November ...	64	144	213	188	148	62	178	239	201	89	65	126	87
December ...	58	27	27	24	35	43	28	22	26	62	30	22	49
1940.													
January ...	32	27	33	27	30	24	24	24	24	59	61	50	58

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales for 1938-39 was 437,141,000 lb. as compared with 495,027,000 lb in 1937-38. The total production in 1939-40 is estimated at approximately 532,000,000 lb.

Under agreement with the British Government the 1939-40 wool clip will be disposed of by appraisement on an average price of 10.25d. sterling or 13.4375d. per lb. Australian Currency.

SYDNEY WOOL SALES.

Period.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1937.	1938.	1939.
	Number of Bales Sold.			Amount Realised for Wool Sold		
				£	£	£
Year ended 30th June ...	1,246,801	1,095,022	1,143,856	25,980,094	17,621,421	15,077,537

Number of Bales Received into Store.

	During Month.			Total for Season to end of Month.		
	1937-38.	1938-39.	1949-40.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
July ...	53,653	29,882	53,933	53,653	29,882	53,933
August ...	185,140	122,485	159,420	238,793	152,367	213,353
September ...	308,171	270,990	357,205	546,964	423,357	570,558
October ...	265,589	255,093	332,084	812,553	678,450	902,642
November ...	195,082	180,128	189,868	1,007,635	858,578	1,092,510
December ...	60,705	57,678	64,573	1,068,340	916,256	1,157,083
January ...	18,229	19,603	23,617	1,086,569	935,859	1,180,700

3. WHEAT.

The area sown with wheat in 1939-40 was 4,694,200 acres, including 4,425,400 acres for grain. Returns of wheat farmers show that the harvest for 1939-40, is approximately 76,000,000 bushels.

In 1938-39 the total area cropped for grain was 4,651,000 acres and the wheat harvest 59,898,000 bushels.

WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM NEW SOUTH WALES (DIRECT).

Month.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
	Bushels of Wheat.			Tons of Flour.		
December	2,242,125	1,068,383	82,363	16,365	14,071	19,255
January	951,257	637,067	597,937	14,280	19,561	36,208

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

	Bushels of Wheat (Equivalent).			Value £.		
December... ..	3,021,432	1,738,426	1,006,586	656,860	227,994	157,166
January	1,631,255	1,568,553	2,335,938	358,838	195,381	377,795
Total (two months) ...	4,652,687	3,306,979	3,342,524	1,015,698	423,375	534,961

The course of wheat prices is shown in Table 25.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in 1938-39 was two per cent. less than that of the previous season.

The exportable surplus of Australian butter in 1939-40 is to be purchased by the British Government at an agreed price for choicest butter of 137s. 2d. per cwt., f.o.b., Australian ports.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).		Butter exported oversea (New South Wales).			
	1938.	1939.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1938.	1939.	1938	1939.	1938.	1939.
	Thousand lb.		Thousand lb.		£	£
Year ended 31 December	113,168	120,431	32,773	28,858	1,888,515	1,709,831
July to December ...	51,092	57,683	11,499	16,390	636,509	989,245
	1938-39	1939-40	1938-39	1939-40	1938-39	1939-40
July	4,437	6,585	661	2,223	42,348	130,444
August	4,887	6,355	309	964	19,395	55,691
September	6,915	7,335	518	1,931	30,652	115,600
October	10,842	10,165	1,617	2,312	92,830	146,715
November	12,589	13,427	4,200	3,969	238,729	246,103
December	11,423	13,816	4,095	4,992	212,555	294,692
January	9,707	...	2,528	6,319	145,430	400,788

NEW SOUTH WALES.

5. COAL.

The quantity of coal raised in 1939 is estimated to be 11,000,000 tons as compared with 9,571,000 tons in 1938 and 10,052,000 tons in 1937.

Month.	Coal Hauled by Government Railways.†			Coal Exported from New South Wales.†		
	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
July	662,569	762,559	763,141	288,483	322,672	286,355
August	640,592	622,867	841,316	276,907	275,164	335,500
September	650,172	§218,989	697,363	291,748	§120,342	290,364
October	638,105	§176,476	724,234	311,913	§51,610	296,582
November	686,398	796,647	605,989	305,898	320,179	299,613
December	642,739	657,389	590,593	313,524	267,333	251,914
January	552,240	567,189	505,000*	220,444	242,092	††

* Approximate. † Cargo and bunker, Oversea and interstate. ‡ Excludes coal used by the Railway Department and coal shipped or used in New South Wales without being hauled over Government railways.
§ Affected by an industrial dispute. †† Not available.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January... ..	2,623	2,616	2,766	2,738	202	212	231	231	749	786	928	950
February	2,656	2,853	3,153	3,070	206	221	232	232	766	839	939	964
March	2,838	3,147	3,570	3,406	208	222	232	229	775	839	949	961
April	2,683	3,106	2,979	2,791	206	223	232	230	734	844	922	939
May	2,650	2,938	3,241	3,242	206	222	233	230	756	853	961	954
June	2,504	2,958	2,935	3,013	205	224	236	228	764	868	947	927
July	2,827	3,064	3,029	2,961	211	227	238	228	776	871	975	950
August	2,655	3,025	3,141	3,386	214	228	238	230	793	883	968	954
September	2,761	3,231	3,407	3,669	215	229	237	231	790	903	967	974
October	2,985	3,147	3,005	3,421	219	235	239	236	809	941	971	992
November	3,022	3,437	3,305	3,841	219	236	240	239	806	959	989	1,018
December	3,070	3,452	3,327	3,606	216	236	236	240	822	1,000	1,008	1,045
Average (January -December)	2,773	3,081	3,155	3,262	211	226	235	232	778	882	960	969

For the volume of monthly employment in factories, see Table 22.

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded:—

Year.	Month of January.				December Quarter.		
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.	Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.		New Buildings and Additions.
	£	£	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	£
1937	658,986	82,027	367	439,165	1,165	917,181	4,629,604
1938	904,774	158,617	451	523,419	1,171	936,291	4,645,626
1939	864,192	119,853	505	619,219	924	681,215	3,785,609
1940	699,143	82,864	428	536,227			

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area. † The value of building permits issued in New South Wales (so far as recorded) in 1939 was £17,582,000 as compared with £20,372,000 in 1938 and £16,656,000 in 1937.

More detailed information extending over a number of years is shown on pages 22 to 25 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for September Quarter, 1939.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.*

To and from New South Wales direct Oversea.

Year.	Australian Currency Values.				British Currency Values.			
	Month of January.		Seven months ended 31st January.		Month of January.		Seven months ended 31st January.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
1938	Thousand £ A.		Thousand £ Stg.			
1939	2,509	36,064	4,009	2,003	28,794	19,934
1940	4,465	2,755	3,565	2,200	25,720	16,684
1940	5,391	32,581	5,268	4,304	26,011	21,253

* Excluding bullion and specie.

The values of imports represent the cost f.o.b. port of export plus 10 per cent., and are recorded in *English currency*. The values of exports are the values in the principal markets of New South Wales, and are recorded in *Australian currency*. The respective equivalent values in Australian and British currencies shown above are *estimated*.

9. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Month.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.
June
July
August
September
October
November
December
Twelve months (Jan. to December).

† Rate of tax increased.

Numerous commodities were exempted from tax as from 26th October, 1933, 1st August, 1934, 25th October, 1935, and 26th September, 1936. Consequently, many traders dealing exclusively in exempt goods ceased to supply returns and the proportion of wholesale trade covered by the records was progressively reduced. Allowance on this account should be made when comparing recent totals with those for 1936 and earlier years.

10. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Month.	Number of Business Days in Month.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Year 1938	303	303	Percentage increase + or decrease —					
1939.			+ 4'8	+ 5'2	+ 11'6	+ 5'0	.....	.....
June*	25	25	+ 0'2	— 0'5	+ 1'5	— 0'1	— 3'1	+ 2'0
July*	26	26	— 0'9	2'7	+ 1'4	+ 0'3	Nil.	+ 2'3
August	27	27	+ 0'6	— 1'6	+ 3'8	— 1'1	— 0'1	+ 2'3
September*	26	26	+ 8'5	+ 1'5	+ 0'9	— 0'9	+ 2'6	+ 2'1
October	25	25	+ 14'0	+ 4'1	+ 3'0	+ 1'3	+ 7'8	+ 2'6
November	26	26	+ 2'3	+ 5'2	+ 2'1	+ 1'7	+ 5'6	+ 2'0
December*	25	24	+ 2'6	+ 7'8	Nil.	+ 1'7	+ 8'1	+ 1'6
Twelve months (Jan. to Dec.)	303	303	+ 2'4	+ 2'0	+ 2'6	+ 0'9	.....	.....

* June, 1939, and July, 1938, September 1938 and 1939, and December 1938 and 1939, included five late shopping nights

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

11. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of December.			Six Months ended 31st December.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1937 ...	1,873,621	1,124,453	749,168	9,788,548	6,411,727	3,376,821
1938 ...	1,828,336	1,148,879	679,457	9,653,327	7,079,762	2,573,565
1939 ...	1,908,973	1,175,756	733,217	10,520,698	7,042,549	3,478,149

* Interest and Exchange on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1938-39 was £5,360,000, exclusive of £1,214,983 sinking fund, exchange, etc.

	Month of December.		Six Months ended 31st December.	
	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1937 ...	214,031	15,707	964,544	93,616
1938 ...	209,330	15,925	943,657	95,403
1939 ...	196,890	15,067	1,004,793	89,127

* Goods (including wayleave) and livestock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

All fares and certain rates of freight were increased by ten per cent. from 1st March, 1939.

12. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT—NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
Month of December—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1937 ...	356,993	70,645	31,218	26,640	5,605	2,186
1938 ...	365,171	62,946	31,542	27,927	6,755	2,258
1939 ...	363,560	61,346	31,003	27,479	6,770	2,263
Six Months ended 31st December—						
1937 ...	1,943,295	327,534	169,629	138,720	23,343	11,505
1938 ...	1,999,007	272,476	173,537	143,703	24,097	11,854
1939 ...	2,038,211	293,312	173,418	150,459	28,709	12,469

* Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Depreciation (amounting in 1938-39 to £646,000) are not included as working expenses.

† Excludes Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

13. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.
(Including Commonwealth and State Government Vehicles.)

Class.	31st January, 1938.	1939.						31st January, 1940.
		31st January.	31st March.	30th June.	30th September.	30th November.	31st December.	
Cars ...	199,980	212,632	213,970	216,050	216,465	216,150	216,443	215,477
Lorries and Vans ...	70,891	76,447	76,270	76,726	77,691	77,664	77,674	77,186
Trailers ...	4,931	6,147	6,229	6,414	6,541	6,612	6,913	6,917
Tractors ...	745	904	984	1,035	1,110	1,142	1,155	1,161
Cycles—Solo ...	17,039	17,229	17,247	17,180	17,106	16,666	16,384	16,168
Cycles—Side-car ...	7,017	6,990	7,017	6,971	6,826	6,617	6,625	6,558
Omnibuses ...	678	731	741	777	800	817	825	813
Taxi-cabs ...	1,196	1,266	1,283	1,313	1,338	1,340	1,341	1,346
Traders' Plates	1,055	1,095	1,124	1,164	1,198	1,210	1,194	1,178
Total ...	303,532	323,501	324,865	327,630	329,075	328,218	328,554	326,704

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	Jan.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1936	328	301	323	332	344	402	99	163	171	172	193	183
1937	408	414	415	421	483	534	137	210	200	221	246	222
1938	427	340	368	343	428	457	163	147	181	177	202	163
1939	325	322	270	314	368	344	117	146	126	145	169	127
1940	246						87					

* The figures have been revised since last issue by omitting trailers.

14. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.
(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.				1936.	1937	1938.	1939.	1940.
				No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January ...	...	...	...	296,482	342,155	389,055	423,649	444,522
August ...	...	...	...	327,232	370,289	414,747	431,029	...
September ...	...	...	...	330,902	376,783	417,853	432,795	...
October ...	...	...	...	336,091	378,728	419,912	435,573	...
November ...	...	...	...	338,106	383,944	420,087	440,335	...
December ...	...	...	...	340,829	387,043	420,595	441,934	...

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

15. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).†

As at June 30th.†	Amount of Deposits.	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1938.	1939.	1940.
	£		£	£	£
1929	85,727,514	January ...	83,282,881*	86,824,101*	86,715,917*
1930	82,465,430	February ...	83,697,582*	86,591,320*	...
1931	69,810,769	March ...	83,989,040	86,269,445	...
1932	71,647,869	April ...	84,211,474*	86,222,208*	...
1933	72,307,685	May ...	84,310,498*	86,097,258*	...
1934	75,714,070	June ...	86,015,685†	87,473,789†	...
1935	77,906,402	July ...	85,952,874*	87,201,203*	...
1936	79,999,948	August ...	86,399,959*	86,957,281*	...
1937	81,952,399	September ...	86,436,219	86,557,014	...
1938	86,015,685	October ...	86,763,372*	86,751,263*	...
1939	87,473,789	November ...	86,341,441*	86,684,205*	...
		December ...	86,645,354	86,580,957	...

* Approximate.

† Including accrued interest.

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts

16. TRADING BANKS*—DEPOSITS ETC. IN AUSTRALIA.

December Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Advances.
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1937 ...	312,861	38,412	20,900	21,100	272,637
1938 ...	316,782	35,099	18,709	19,196	289,637
1939 ...	327,099	37,237	23,205	23,502	292,853

* Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

17. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

December Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.
	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.		
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1937 ...	61,975	50,737	112,712	111,731	(-) 981
1938 ...	63,905	49,415	113,320	121,423	8,103
1939 ...	65,015	55,001	120,616	122,738	2,122

(—) Denotes an excess of Deposits over Advances.

18. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	59.5	56.9	66.4	76.7	67.5	66.5	82.6	78	75	89	101	97	98	110
February...	59.3	59.7	69.2	77.4	75.6	75.5		77	75	86	101	96	96	
March ...	58.8	57.7	69.9	77.2	82.6	80.5		75	74	85	98	95	93	
April ...	52.8	61.3	63.5	80.6	75.7	70.7		74	78	87	103	102	98	
May ...	61.7	64.9	68.4	76.1	82.9	82.0		74	79	86	100	103	100	
June ...	72.1	73.7	69.5	79.2	86.8	80.3		78	86	87	103	106	101	
July ...	54.8	61.2	65.1	75.0	70.5	71.2		76	83	85	97	101	98	
August ...	47.8	59.6	61.9	70.0	72.9	74.9		73	84	86	98	101	99	
September	61.7	62.5	68.1	70.8	77.6	74.9		73	82	87	101	99	99	
October ...	63.7	72.2	76.6	80.1	79.5	78.0		76	85	91	101	101	100	
November	63.2	75.1	79.7	81.3	82.7	86.1		80	89	96	103	102	102	
December	60.7	71.2	84.3	83.9	88.1	91.7		77	90	99	101	102	106	
Year ...	716.1	776.0	842.6	937.3	942.4	932.3		76	82	89	101	101	100	

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

19. INTEREST RATES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period.	First Mortgages Registered. Proportion of Total Amount for which Rates are disclosed.					Australian Consolidated Loans. Interest yield (including Redemption) on all Securities Repayable:—			
	Rate of Interest per cent per annum.					Over 5 to 10 Years.	Over 10 to 15 Years.	Over 15 Years.	Over 5 Years. (over all Rate.)
	4½ or under.	Over 4½-5.	Over 5-6.	Over 6-7.	Over 7.				
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.—Per annum.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1935 ...	46.	30	18	4	2	3 9 7	3 10 1	3 13 9	3 11 1
1936 ...	39	37	18	4	2	3 16 10	3 17 6	3 18 9	3 17 8
1937 ...	32	39	24	3	2	3 16 4	3 17 5	3 18 1	3 17 4
1938 ...	30	38	25	5	2	3 14 5	3 15 0	3 15 10	3 15 0
1939 ...	18	34	37	8	3	3 17 9	3 18 4	3 18 4	3 18 1
1939-July ...	16	37	37	7	3	3 19 6	4 0 0	3 19 11	3 19 9
August ...	14	35	39	9	3	3 19 6	4 0 0	3 19 11	3 19 10
September ...	16	36	36	9	3	4 1 0	4 1 1	4 1 9	4 1 3
October ...	13	35	39	10	3	3 18 5	3 19 10	4 0 2	3 19 5
November ...	15	33	39	10	3	3 16 10	3 18 5	3 19 1	3 18 0
December ...	14	33	40	10	3	3 15 5	3 17 3	3 17 11	3 16 9
1940-January ...	19	30	38	10	3	3 14 3	3 15 7	3 16 2	3 15 2
(At 15th Feb.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	3 12 4	3 12 5	3 12 4	3 12 4

Interest rates on first mortgages are the average for the three months ended in the month shown.

20. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1936.†	1937.	1938.†	1939.	1940.
	Thousand £.									
January ...	2,153	2,954	2,383	2,449	1,884	1,241	1,861	1,771	1,591	1,480
February ...	2,564	2,596	3,285	2,438		1,200	1,688	1,868	1,841	
March ...	3,090	2,992	3,280	3,623		3,030	2,134	2,036	2,225	
April ...	3,033	2,792	2,770	2,245		1,389	1,607	2,359	2,025	
May ...	2,317	2,716	3,989	3,090		1,376	1,850	2,727	2,112	
June ...	2,839	2,879	2,898	2,613		1,756	1,842	2,604	1,658	
July ...	3,288	4,692	2,894	2,919		1,668	2,550	2,285	1,950	
August ...	2,787	2,925	4,262	3,068		1,686	1,771	2,184	2,770	
September ...	2,815	2,665	3,079	2,934		1,563	1,593	2,085	1,501	
October ...	2,508	3,079	3,111	2,330		2,270	2,241	2,153	1,713	
November ...	3,212	3,478	2,671	2,381		1,504	2,694	2,565	1,702	
December ...	2,940	3,585	2,797	2,067		1,831	1,980	2,343	1,344	
Year ...	33,546	37,353	37,419	32,157		20,511†	23,811	26,967†	22,433	

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

† Totals for months are approximate and aggregate differs slightly from annual total.

The average monthly transactions for period 1925-1929 were:—Sales, £4,619,000; and Mortgages, £4,042,000

NOTE.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

In January, 1940, mortgages, exclusive of those providing collateral security amounted to £1,146,000 as compared with £1,461,000 and £1,389,000 in January of 1939 and 1938 respectively.

21. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of January.			Year ended 31st December.		
	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1938 ...	151,921	205,118	163,706	1,868,317	2,896,558	1,886,871
1939 ...	140,509	179,032	144,566	1,923,271	2,953,093	1,546,540
1940 ...	67,547	216,256	112,228			

See note under Table 20.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

22.—EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

(APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN MIDDLE WEEK OF MONTH.)

Month.	Total in Employment. (a)	Total in Private Employment.	Total employed in Factories.	Number Employed by Employers with 10 or more Employees in—			
				Mines.	Retail Trade.	Wholesale Trade.	Offices and Commerce.
1933—June (b) ...	594,273	477,577	139,744	14,568	38,544	17,638	20,340
1937—December...	849,993	699,183	228,100	19,782	57,364	25,355	26,397
1938—January ...	819,823	670,877	222,300	20,607	50,796	24,523	25,970
1938—October ...	837,413	689,027	230,700	19,750	51,193	25,664	27,611
November...	841,373	692,534	230,800	21,719	52,340	25,814	27,638
December...	859,694	708,949	230,100	21,709	58,716	26,340	27,581
1939—January ...	820,376	670,350	223,100	21,396	51,304	25,381	27,131
1939—October (d)	850,049	700,389	232,600(c)	21,308	51,615	25,926	28,349
November (d)	856,861	706,469	236,700(c)	21,034	52,658	26,200	29,088
December (d)	875,466	723,704	240,400(c)	21,403	58,967	26,468	29,438
1940—January (d)	851,355	699,981	235,900(c)	20,783	52,372	25,614	29,158

(a) Excluding Rationed Relief Workers.

(b) Census of 30th June.

(c) Subject to revision.

(d) Excluding men on Naval and Military duty who were not on pay sheets of private employers.

23.—INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT—N.S.W.

After comprehensive analysis of Census data, the returns of private employers accompanying remittances of wages tax, and returns of Government employment, the following indexes have been compiled covering total employment and unemployment in New South Wales:—

Middle of Month.	Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment—			
	(a) Including full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers as employed.		(b) Excluding part-time relief workers from employed.	
	Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1933—June Census	...	...	...	...
1937—December*	74.4	25.6	73.5	26.5
1938—January ...	97.2	2.8	96.0	4.0
1938—December*	94.6	5.4	93.5	6.5
1939—January ...	96.5	3.5	95.4	4.6
1939—December*	93.0	7.0	91.9	8.1
1940—January ...	96.1	3.9	95.4	4.6
	94.4	5.6	93.6	6.4

* Excluding casual seasonal assistants in retail stores.

NOTES.

(1) The index of employment is the ratio of number in employment (first column of Table 22) to estimated number of wage earners available for employment. The index of unemployment is the residue, but both indexes are derived by modifying the census ratios in accordance with subsequent changes.

(2) "Number in employment" is virtually a direct record; "number of available wage earners" is an estimate derived by increasing the total of wage earners in employment (plus unemployed) at the Census of 1933 in ratio to the annual increase in persons aged 15 to 64 years. In order to increase the degree of precision in the index, adjustment is made in the number of available wage earners thus estimated to allow for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage earners (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment is not made except in respect of casual retail employees in December.

(3) At the census of 1933, 15,142 persons, or 1.8 per cent. of total dependent on employment, were unemployed by reason of illness, accident, etc., or voluntarily. These are excluded from the above indexes which relate to percentages of available wage earners employed and unemployed.

(4) The percentages of unemployment shown above are approximations relating to all wage earners of both sexes. Separate estimates for males and females cannot be made from the data available

¶Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for 100 commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1920.

26. WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS OVERSEA.

	Year	1939.											
	1938.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1930 = 100)...	101.4	97.2	96.8	96.6	97.2	97.8	98.1	98.1	98.1	105.6	110.9	117.2	120.9
United States—Irving Fisher (1926 = 100) ...	81.2	79.8	79.8	80.0	80.0	79.8	79.0	78.7	78.2	82.4	83.5	84.1	85.6

27. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.	Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Zinc (Electrolytic).		Copper (Electrolytic).		Tin (Standard).		Gold (Fine).	
	per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per oz.	
	s.	d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1928	2	2.79	19	11 7	25	5 8	68	6 2	219	7 5	4	4 11
1929	2	0.57	21	14 5	25	19 5	84	10 11	200	11 5	4	4 11
1938	2	0.14	17	12 11	19	12 10	55	15 2	228	11 10	8	17 2
1939	2	1.42	17	9 1	19	15 3	59	15 1	268	3 6	9	12 11
1939—August ...	1	10.26	18	6 8	19	13 9	62	2 0	273	15 11	9	10 5
September ...	2	3.64	18	7 7	19	19 11	60	12 6	267	1 10	10	11 0
October ...	2	4.34	18	7 7	21	9 1	60	12 6	267	9 0	10	11 0
November ...	2	5.14	18	7 7	21	12 9	60	12 6	264	6 4	10	11 11
December ...	2	3.80	18	18 1	21	10 4	60	12 6	285	2 11	10	12 6

28. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values; adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929 \$	179.3	183.8	129.4	174.1	243.5	174.4	172.6
Sept., 1931 \$	72.3	60.2	87.9	121.3	75.2	74.4	77.2
Mar., 1937 \$	213.8	203.8	181.0	169.2	281.2	190.4	200.5
July ...	214.5	171.3	160.3	117.5	262.7	176.2	184.3
Aug. ...	212.6	168.2	156.0	118.2	263.9	174.4	181.9
Sept. ...	208.8	161.3	151.6	127.1	256.6	171.1	180.0
Oct. ...	214.1	165.3	149.9	131.1	257.6	173.3	183.0
Ncv. ...	220.0	171.8	147.1	132.3	261.0	176.7	187.8
Dec. ...	222.3	172.6	149.4	130.9	262.2	178.8	190.9
Jan. 1940 ...	229.0	174.0	151.9	131.8	269.9	181.6	195.2

Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. * The highest point of the index, prior to the slump, was reached in April, 1929, the lowest in September, 1931, and the highest point in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 30th September, 1939, was 2,755,060 or 39 per cent of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1938, 1,288,721).

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted), payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

Acknowledgment is made of the ready help given by numerous private organisations and businesses, and by Government Departments in providing data contained in this summary.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

26th February, 1940.